

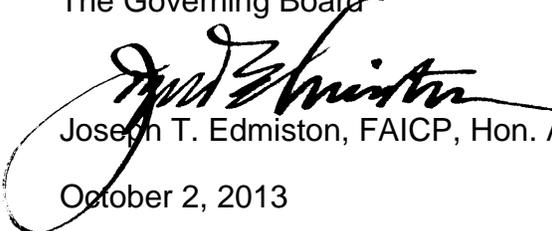


# MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

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## MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: October 2, 2013

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item XII: Consideration of resolution authorizing the transfer of a conservation easement to the Desert and Mountain Conservation Authority over the following APNs: 2401-032-033, 005, 006, 007, and 008; 2401-034-003; 2561-007-007, 010, 012, 013, 016, 018, 019, 021, and 022; 2545-018-002, 004, and 005; 2546-010-009; 2561-009-005, 006, 007, 010, 012, 013, 015, and 016; 2561-031-004, 2561-033-001, 002, and 003; 2562-003-012 (portion) and 015; 2562-004-006 (portion) 008, 011, and 014; 2562-005-003, 004, 006, and 007; and 2562-006-005 and 008, La Tuna Canyon, Verdugo Mountains, City of Los Angeles.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the transfer of a conservation easement to the Desert and Mountain Conservation Authority over the following APNs: 2401-032-033, 005, 006, 007, and 008; 2401-034-003; 2561-007-007, 010, 012, 013, 016, 018, 019, 021, and 022; 2545-018-002, 004, and 005; 2546-010-009; 2561-009-005, 006, 007, 010, 012, 013, 015, and 016; 2561-031-004, 2561-033-001, 002, and 003; 2562-003-012 (portion) and 015; 2562-004-006 (portion) 008, 011, and 014; 2562-005-003, 004, 006, and 007; and 2562-006-005 and 008, La Tuna Canyon, Verdugo Mountains, City of Los Angeles.

Background: On December 1, 2010, the Governing Board authorized acceptance of a conservation easement over the above listed APNs from Whitebird Real Estate Holdings, LLC (Whitebird). Subsequently, in September 29, 2011, the Desert Mountain Conservation Authority (DMCA) authorized the acceptance of a fee title donation from Whitebird over the same parcels totaling approximately 570 acres. The DMCA has already taken title to a portion of the property and is ready to move forward with the second phase of the transfer. Since the MRCA is better equipped to manage the property, the DMCA planned to transfer the property to the MRCA upon completion of the fee title donation. On December 5, 2012, the MRCA Governing Board authorized acceptance of fee title to the subject property. Whitebird would like to ensure that the conservation easement isn't extinguished once the DMCA transfers fee title to the MRCA. So staff recommends the simultaneous transfer of the conservation easement from the MRCA to the DMCA, when the DMCA transfers fee title of the property to the MRCA.